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BOOKSELLING ABROAD.

In treating of any subject concerning books, it is difficult to get away from Germany. There modern literature first took root, and, nurtured by the press, branched off into the 'uttermost corners of the earth.' There also literary commerce has been reduced to a system more complete and effectual than in any other country in which the trade 'flourishes. It is to Germany, therefore, that our present notices of the book-

Piracy and fraud are as old as bookselling

trade must be for a while confined.

itself. The ingenious devices of the dishonest kept pace with the extensive development of the book-trade By the printer's art; and as soon as a publisher became famous for the correctness and legible neatness of his editions, his name and 'marks' were fraudulently forged by inferior typographers, to insure a readier sale for works than their own merits would have procured. We must here digress a moment, to-say a word concerning the symbols adopted by the old booksellers, who were (and by the book-fancier still are) so well known by the devices they placed on their title-pages, that neither their name nor place of residence was necessary. Of these marks, the best known are as follows:-The anchor, the sign adopted by Raphelengius of Leyden; an anchor, with a dolphin twisted around it, was the symbol adopted by the Mavutti of Venice and Rome. The Stephenses of Paris and Geneva put forth the olive-tree; and the Elzevirs of Amsterdam adopted the same symbol. The signs of the zodiac were also appropriated as marks by some publishers; while others conon his tittle-pages a hare, a sheaf of rye, and a representation of the sun. William chiefly resided in Geneva and Vienna. In cies, as the Sallee rovers did amongst the these forgers set their presses to work, and year 1765 to a pitch so ruinous to the regular trade, that the German publishers entered into a confederacy to put a stop to it. Erasmus Reich, one of the partners in the Weidmannsche Buchhandlung (an extensive publishing concern), called a meeting at Frankfort, and proposed certain laws and regulations, the chief object of which was to tie down the booksellers of Germany not to sell any copies of the spurious editions. To this agreement fifty-nine booksellers subscribed. By the year 1797, the association spread its influence throughout the country, and ever since the latter year, no person can sell a book without being a member of the German booksellers' association (Deutschen Buchhandlers Verein) of Leipsic, to which place the book trade has since been concentrated. SHIP CHANDLERY AND PROVISIONS, By means of this concentration, improvements have gradually been made in the organization of the book trade, until formed

> tion of which will be found interesting. The book trade of Germany is divided into three distinct branches-1st, That of the publisher (Verlagsgeschäft); 2d, The bookseller's business (Sortimentshandel); 3d, The agencies (Commissionsgesshäft). The first two branches are frequently united, and of-

into the system it is a present-an explana-

tion. He buys the manuscript from the author, and gets it printed, either by his own presses, or by other parties for his account. and sends copies to such booksellers as he thinks likely to sell the work, The invoice is fastened on the outside of the parcel, half folded up, so that only the head, bearing the name of the bookseller to whom it is directed and the name of the publisher from whom it comes, can be seen. The parcels are all put into one bale, and sent to the publisher's agent in Leipsic, who distributes them to the different agents in that town. Every respectable bookseller in Germany employs an are called 'Nova;' on the invoice is put 'pr. option to keep them or to send them back. The returned books are properly called remittriem, though more frequently and jocose-ly krebse (crabs). By such conditional consignments, private persons have the advantage option to keep them or to send them back. Sellers there were 49 books there were 49 books there were 49 books are properly called remitted with an army, and exclusively to foreign books; now, there are exclusively to foreign books; now, there are these powers to degrading and enslaving his booksellers in London alone. In Edinburgh, there are three of the trade who make the sollers belonging to German-Switzerland, at least fifty German, French, and Italian booksellers in London alone. In Edinburgh, there are three of the trade who make the sollers booksellers in London alone. In Edinburgh, there are three of the trade who make the sollers booksellers in London alone. In Edinburgh, there are three of the trade who make the sollers booksellers in London alone. In Edinburgh, there are three of the trade who make the sollers are three of the trade who make signments, private persons have the advantage of being able to look into the merit of a work before they are called upon to buy it, whereby new publications get to all parts of the country, and at the same price as at the Attorney at Law and Solicitor, title of the work-to the agent of the pubof his publications to his agent in Leipsie, in tremely rigid. order that he may execute without delay any Of the book trade carried on in the more ber that a blighted spring makes a barren world, have passed through this fiery perseorders which may come in; so that the short- southern portions of Europe, Paris is the year, and that the vernal flowers, however cution. There is no defence against re-

selmas, the fairs before alluded to are held trade as in Germany. Paris is the great Johnson.

[From Chambers' Edinburgh Journal.] at Leipsic, exclusively devoted to the sale of central point where almost all works of any books. Of the three, however, the grand renown are printed, and where the most dis- have delineated him crossing the Alpine concentration of the trade takes place at tinguished men of letters, artists, and au- heights mounted on a fiery steed. The plain Easter (Jubilatemesse); for that is the time thors, are to be found. The booksellers of truth is, that he ascended the Mount St. Berwhen all accounts are, or should be, closed the departments, it is true, have also their nard in the gray surtout which he usually between the booksellers of various parts of agents in Paris, but they do not maintain wore upon a mule, led by a guide belonging Germany, who either attend the fair person- such a regular and constant intercourse as to the country, evincing, even in the difficult ally, or send some confidential clerk.

HONOLULU, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1848.

y to Berlin.

College of Upper Censorship (Ober Censur folio ten carlini, or 3s. 4d. Collegium) before the sale of them is allow- In Holland, the chief seat of the book

coarseness of paper and types for which almost nominal. German books are distinguished; for the publisher has no chance of competing with the pirate except by making his own edition

too cheap to be undersold. trade' flourishes. The number of German place in Great Britain. From the continenbooksellers has so much increased within the tal peace, which, happily, has not been distation to get at the goods of others by violent last twenty years, that many of those who turbed since 1815, the importation into this or fraudulent means, and to keep far from have been long established are complaining country of foreign works has steadily aug- their minds all the inducements to hypocrisy of underselling and other irregularities; but mented. Free commercial intercourse once and deceit. — William Cobbett. in that respect the older members of the established with our continental bretheren. trade may be said to suffer no more than merce, whose profits and modes of doing the French, German, and Italian languages speaking, is only entitled to respect when it agent in Leipsic. Such copies of new works set up through the demands of an augmenting population. The number of booksellers former) have therefore been eagerly read we think of the gardener who planted his in Leipsic in 1839 was 116; the total number and a demand for them increases daily. flowerbed with henbane and deadly night-Nov.' (pro Novitate). They are sent 'on in Leipsic in 1839 was 116; the total number and a demand for them increases daily. Shade? What should we think of the geneoption to keep them or to send them back. Besides these, there were 49 book-

place of publication—a system which is quite Having disposed of the book trade of peculiar to the German book trade, and Germany, we now proceed to glance at that which has certainly contributed much to the of Russia. Here the dawning of literature diffusion of knowledge in Germany. The began with Peter the Great. The first book ing a small slip of paper (Verlangzettel)—
containing the name of the publisher, the name of the bookseller who orders, and the 1837, the number of new works published in lisher, who transmits the work by the first and 122 translated works. There were also opportunity, and, if quickly wanted, by post. 48 periodicals treating of politics and literaopportunity, and, it quies, and a weakness ture. The censorship of the press is ex-

est and cheapest way of procuring a work is generally by sending to Leipsic for it.

head-quarters: we shall therefore treat of beautiful and gay, are only intended by nacommittant to greatness, as satires and invectors. At the New Year, at Easter, and at Mich-there is no such organization of the book ture as preparatives to autumnal fruits. - tives were an essential part of a Roman tri-

those in Germany. Besides, the publishers passes, the abstraction of a mind occupied Although the book trade of Germany is ('Editeurs Libraires') seldom send their elsewhere, conversing with officers scattered centralized at Leipsic, yet it must not be publications 'à condition;' the booksellers on the road, and then, at intervals, questionsupposed that it is exclusively conducted at ('Marchands Libraires') must order, and ing the guide who attended him, making him the fairs. New publications, though usually generally pay for them in cash. Sometimes, relate particulars of his life, his pleasures, first issued at them, are occasionally forward- however, a credit of three, four, or six his pains, like an idle traveller who has noed for general distribution in the monthly months is granted. The trade allowances thing better to do. This guide, who was parcels, of which many thousand bales an- are regulated not, as in other countries, by quite young, gave him a simple recital of the nually arrive, and are sent away. Thus, the sale price, but by the subjects of the details of his obscure existence, and especi-wherever a book may be printed, it is invari- works. The discount on historical, critical, ally the vexation he felt because, for want of ably published or issued in Leipsic; where and elementary works, is twenty-five per a little money, he could not marry one of the every local Sortimentshandler has his commis- cent.; that on mathematical and strictly sci- girls of his valley. The First Consul, somesionar, or agent. Instead, therefore, of ap- entific works, is from ten to fifteen per cent.; times listening, sometimes questioning the plying directly to the local publisher for a while upon romances, tales, and literature of passengers with whom the mountain was new work, he sends to this commissioner in the lighter order, it is often as high as fifty covered, arrived at the Hospice, where the Leipsic, and through him the order reaches per cent. Literary censorship was early in- worthy monks gave him a warm reception. its destination. If a bookseller of Berlin, troduced into France, and exercised most No sooner had he alighted from his mule for instance, has ordered books from Vienna, severely. Charles IX. published an edict in than he wrote a note which he handed to his Strasburg, Munich, Stuttgard, and a dozen 1563, by which he forbabe printers to issue guide, desiring him to be sure and deliver it other places, they are all transmitted to his unauthorized works 'under pain of hanging to the quartermaster of the army, who had Leipsic agent, who then forwards them in or strangulation.' The censorship continued been left on the other side of the St. Bernard. one mass much more cheaply than if each to be enforced down to the reign of Charles In the evening, the young man, on returning portion had been sent separately and direct- X., whose unfortunate ordonnance of the to St. Pierre, learned with great surprise 27th July, 1830, by which he would have what powerful traveller it was whom he had The censorship of the press, which is ex-ercised in every state in the German confed-produced the last French revolution. From Bonaparte had ordered that a house and eration, opposes a great and important hin- that the the censorship was abolished; but a piece of ground should be given to him imderance to the prosperity of literature, espe- sort of substitute for it remains, in the very mediately, and that he should be supplied, cially in a commercial point of view. Each stringent laws against libel. In the year in short, with the means requisite for marryjournal and publication under twenty sheets, 1830, there were in France 620 printers, re- ing, and for realizing all the dreams of his whatever be the subject of which it treats- siding in 283 towns, and 1124 booksellers modest ambition. This mountaineer died

foreign books, and are subject to a second of books is so prevalent, that one printed at of Providence .- Thiers' History of the Conshipping interests of the civilized world. No sooner had a printer put forth a carefully prepared edition of some valued classic, than prepared edition of some valued classic, than tised ('Transeat'); sometimes they are to than in Germany. The customs' duty on constantly in mind that nine-tenths of us are, be delivered only to certain persons to whom foreign works is so enormous, that it is from the very nature and necessities of the produced an exact imitation of it at a much the censorship has given special leave to receive them ('Erga schedam'); or they are port them. In the kingdom of the Two Sici- sweat of our brow. What reason have we totally prohibited ('Damnatur'). In Prus- lies, each octavo volume has to pay three then to presume that our children are not to sia, all books printed out of Germany in the carlini, or one shilling entrance duty; a do the same? If they be, as now then one German language must be laid before the quarto volume six carlini; and a volume in will be, endowed with extraordinary powers

ed. These separate interests and separate trade is Amsterdam, which boasts of eighty laws prove very efficacious in encouraging booksellers, who have adopted the German great either to us or to them. Nor does it piracy. In Germany, neither author nor publisher has much chance of making a fortune; each state of the confederation having its own law of copyright, and the protection. In 1828 there were published in Holicare, skill, excellence in the present parent. its own law of copyright, and the protection land 770 new works. In Belgium, Brussels it affords of course only extends over the included the collection works. In Belgium, Brussels lay the foundation for a rise, under more fait affords of course only extends over the is almost the only town where works of any vorable circumstances, for the children. territory itself; hence, no sooner does a note are published. They consist principal-work of merit appear in one state than it is ly of republications of French and English by and by the descendants of the present lapirated by the next, and as the same lang- works, which are much in demand on account by and by the descendants of the present lauage is common to the whole confederation, nothing more is wanted than a mere reprint.

This practice affords an explanation of seve
Brussels, and also a joint company of pub-This practice affords an explanation of seve- Brussels, and also a joint company of pubral peculiarities which attach to German lishers, whose open and avowed aim is the bookselling. The most prominent of which are, firstly, the cheapness of literary labor; for a publisher cannot be expected to give much for a work which if it he had has no much for a work which, if it be bad, has no sale, and if good, is forthwith stolen. Secondly, the frequency of publication by subscription; for there is no other method by which even authors of the greatest genius can secure a reasonable profit. Thirdly, the coarseness of paper and types for which

home-which we shall do in a concluding ar- habitual to them, so that they never shall be ticle-we must notice the increased demand liable to fall into the contrary; to let them Despite these hinderances, however, the for foreign books which has recently taken always see a good living proceeding from laintellectual and literary intercommunion followed; and to render this the more effectual, imported in 1843 was £132,019.

prices are put down either at the shop price ever printed in the country was struck off at rich somewhat more slowly, they would grow panied with the responsibility of using it or net price. On the shop price (ordinair) a St. Petersburg in the year 1713, and the first rich much more surely. If they would use rightly; and the neglect or pity of the virtudiscount of one third, or thirty-three and newspaper in the year following. Now there their capital within reasonable limits, and ous is the penalty which the child of genius one third per cent., is usually allowed by the are 25 booksellers and printers at St. Peters- transact with it only so much business as it pays, or ought to pay, for its abuse. Howpublishers to the 'trade' for books, and for burg, besides several others at Moscow, Ri- could fairly control, they would be far less ever splendid talents may compel our admiprints or journals, one fourth, or twenty-five ga, Dorpat, Reval, Warsaw, and Wilna. liable to lose it. Excessive profits always ration, they have no right to claim the esper cent. Books which have been published Among the number are many German es- involve the liability of great risks, as in lot- teem of mankind when their possessor exersome time are seldom sent out 'on condition,' tablishments, which supply that part of the tery, in which, if there are high prizes, there cises them without regard to what is due to but must be orderd, which is done by send- population who speak the German language, must be a great proportion of blanks.— the well-being of society and himself.—[Li-

> demonstrably multiplies the inlets to happi- for being eminent. It is folly for an eminent the pursuit of useful knowledge, and remem- persons of antiquity, and in every age of the

NAPOLEON CROSSING THE ALPS .- Artists politics, literature, arts, or science-must be and stationers; all of whom are obliged to not long since in his own country, the owner sent in manuscript to the censor, who strikes be 'brevetés,' that is, licensed, and sworn to of land given to him by the ruler of the an English printer, who died in 1562, printed of the ruler of the ruler of the an English printer, who died in 1562, printed of the ruler of the rul of it is allowed. The delay, and frequeutly paper states that their press had produced a moment when his mind was engaged by arbitrary or capricious interference arising within the last year as many as 6377 works such mighty interests, is worthy of attention. from this system, are evident; nor can it be in dead and living languages, 1388 prints If there were nothing in it but a mere con-Norton, who, besides a bookseller, was trea-surer of Christ's Hospital (1694), had a are thereby created. Moreover, not only all and charts; whilst the copies of newspapers or evil, alternately overthrowing empires or 'sweet William' growing out of a tun, inscreed with the word nor. Others equally
puerile might be quoted. The literary pirates
who forged the marks of the best booksellers
who forged in Geneva and Vienna. In the last-named city, one J. Thomas Edler Von Trattner made himself as famous in the book-trade by the daring boldness of his pira-

> RISING IN THE WORLD .- You should bear of mind, those may have an opportunity of developing themselves; and if they never have this opportunity, the harm is not very them to do them all in the best manner; to set them an example in industry, sobriety, Before we glance at the book trade at cleanliness, and neutness; to make all these

RESPECT FOR GENIUS, -Genius, strictly have been of late extensively studied. Books promotes the peace and improves the happitheir business. During the last ten years, an average of £3,000 has been annually holy purposes, to shaking those foundations paid for duties on foreign works imported into Great Britain. The value of such books and who applies the divine spark within him to the kindling of low and debasing passions, be allowed to hear his plaudits swelled in proportion as his powers of doing mischief RICHES.—If men were content to grow become apparent? Talent is always accom-

PURSUIT OF KNOWLEDGE.-He that enlar- CENSURE.-Censure, says an ingenious ges his curiosity after the works of nature, author, is the tax a man pays to the public umph.- Addison.